

URBAN DISTRICT OF NEWPORT PAGNELL.

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

AND

PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

FOR THE YEAR

1966

CHAIRMAN OF THE COUNCIL
COUNCILLOR F. CRAWLEY

PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE

CHAIRMAN
COUNCILLOR S.J. MORLEY

COUNCILLORS

A.A. CLAY

F. JAMES

P.W. MASON

G.W. GRIFFIN

L.F. TILLEY

PUBLIC HEALTH STAFF
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

DR. P. LAVIS, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.

(The Medical Officer of Health is also M.O.H. for the Borough of Buckingham, the Urban Districts of Bletchley and Wolverton, the Rural Districts of Buckingham, Newport Pagnell and Winslow; Area Medical Officer for North Bucks. and Divisional School Medical Officer for the North Bucks. Division and Buckingham and Winslow Districts).

DEPUTY MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

DR. J.P. HUTCHBY, M.B., B.Ch., B.A.O.

SURVEYOR AND PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR.

J.F. HOPKIN, A.M.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I. (Deceased
9.12.66)

Council Offices,
60 High Street,
NEWPORT PAGNELL.

5th May, 1967.

To the Chairman and Members
of the Council.

Mr. Chairman, Madam and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present the Annual Report for the
year 1966.

Vital Statistics

The figures vary little from the previous year: they
indicate a community whose health standards are well up to
present day norms.

Infectious Diseases

A variety of infectious diseases invaded the town at the
beginning of the year; chicken-pox and mumps in particular.
More troublesome might have been a german measles (rubella) outbreak which caused me some concern in view of the risk of this apparently mild condition to expectant mothers at the beginning of their pregnancy. There are a number of children in the area severely handicapped as a result of this ante-natal exposure and an effort was made to try and ensure that women, in the first four months of pregnancy, who were in contact with rubella, went to their private doctors. The publicity given was much wider than anticipated but it seems that many women did accept advice and were given appropriate preventive treatment by their doctors. A follow up study has been arranged so that any who missed this treatment, and who gave birth to babies "at risk" are screened for defects and offered appropriate help early.

The cases of salmonella (food poisoning) infections were contracted outside Newport Pagnell and no further spread occurred.

Health Education

The main theme for Health Education during 1966 was "Safety in the Home", which included poison hazards and home accidents.

A special effort was also made to encourage school children (and their parents) on the value of "Foot Health". A most encouraging report was received from the Ministry of Health showing survey data indicating that the amount of smoking among adolescents was falling and that there had been a substantial drop in the proportion of cigarette smokers in men and women in recent years. It will, of course, take some time for this to be reflected in any fall in lung cancer deaths or heart and bronchitis morbidity, but one can feel that the effort put into anti-smoking propaganda is not entirely submerged by the advertising agents appeals to "carry on smoking".

Staff

During the year the Council decided to split the present combined Public Health and Surveyor's Department. This was, of course, a wise decision in view of the increased legislation resulting in many more duties being placed on each section. It was already becoming apparent that the work load on the Surveyor/Public Health Inspector had reached the stage where additional staff was necessary. When each department has its own officer some of the routine work on the Health side, that has of necessity had to be cut out, can be tackled and a more vigorous programme will be followed.

Regrettably at the end of the year, your Surveyor/Public Health Inspector, Mr. J. F. Hopkin died. He was looking forward to devoting his whole work in the new health department and had begun laying plans for the future. After serving the community so well for 28 years it is unfortunate that he could not enjoy the fruits of his labour. He had earned respect, being a gentleman who had worked hard serving the town quietly and efficiently.

I must thank Mr. F. Hall, Clerk of the Council, for the work and interest he has in Public Health matters. This was especially invaluable during Mr. Hopkin's illness.

I am your obedient servant,

P. Lavis.

Medical Officer of Health.

NEWPORT PAGNELL URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL
ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH
FOR THE YEAR 1966

SECTION A

GENERAL STATISTICS

	<u>1966</u>	<u>1965</u>
Area (in acres)	3,432	3,432
Population	5,500	5,430
Number of Inhabited Houses	1,995	1,965
Rateable Value	£260,838	£253,048
Rate per Pound	11/8	10/8
Product of a ld. rate	£1055	£1013

VITAL STATISTICS

Births

Legitimate (Males)	45	46
Legitimate (Females)	45	57
Illegitimate (Males)	1	1
Illegitimate (Females)	1	3
Stillbirths	0	1
Birth rate per 1,000 pop. (adjusted)	21.0	24.6
Birth rate per 1,000 pop. (Bucks.)	18.9	19.6
Birth rate per 1,000 pop. (Eng. & W.)	17.7	18.1

Deaths

Males	43	37
Females	68	49
Death rate per 1,000 pop. (Adjusted)	9.3	6.9
Death rate per 1,000 pop. (Bucks.)	9.2	8.9
Death rate per 1,000 pop. (Eng. & W.)	11.7	11.3

Deaths cont'd

	<u>1966</u>	<u>1965</u>
Maternal Mortality	NIL	NIL
Infant Mortality (Deaths under 1 year per 1,000 births)	21.7 (2 deaths)	NIL
Infant Mortality (Bucks.)	15.9	14.9
Infant Mortality (England & Wales)	19.0	19.0

Principal Causes of Death

	<u>1966</u>			<u>1965</u>		
	M.	F.	T.	M.	F.	T.
Cancer: Stomach	1	0	1	0	2	2
Lung, bronchus	1	1	2	3	0	3
Breast	0	1	1	0	1	1
Other	5	5	10	5	4	9
Vascular lasions of nervous system	4	14	18	3	9	12
Heart Diseases	9	20	29	13	18	31
Other Circulatory Diseases	2	3	5	0	1	1
Pneumonia	13	13	26	3	9	12
Bronchitis	4	1	5	6	1	7
Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	1	0	1	1	1	2
Accidents	2	3	5	0	1	1
All other causes	1	7	8	3	2	5
	<hr/>			<hr/>		
	43	68	111	37	49	86
	<hr/>			<hr/>		

SECTION B

PERSONAL HEALTH SERVICES

1. HEALTH CENTRE

An approach was made to the County Council for the establishment of a Section 21 Health Centre to serve Newport Pagnell and the immediate surrounding countryside. The aim was agreed in principle, but a Committee was appointed consisting of general practitioners' representatives and local Health Authority Officers to examine the future medical service needs for Buckinghamshire as a whole. A policy will be formulated to establish priorities and I am hoping that the Newport Health Centre will be high on this list.

2. AMBULANCE SERVICE

Administered by County Council, controlled from the Bletchley Station (Telephone Bletchley 2565) ambulances are stationed in Newport Pagnell.

3. HOSPITALS

Newport Pagnell - Westbury (Maternity) and Renny Lodge.
General Hospitals at Northampton, Bedford and Aylesbury.
Certain out-patients facilities available at Wolverton and Bletchley, orthopaedic clinic in Newport Pagnell.

4. LABORATORY

Northampton (Telephone 34347).

5. DISTRICT NURSES/MIDWIVES

Mrs. C. McKirdy and Miss Malcolm (Telephone N.P. 115)

6. HEALTH VISITOR

Miss S. Poole (Tel: Newport Pagnell 52) who works with local practitioners.

7. CLINIC

L.H.A. Child Welfare: Congregational School room, High St.
1st and 3rd Wednesdays each month
at 2.00 p.m.

Welfare Foods: Wednesdays & Fridays 2.00 - 4.30 p.m.

8. SOCIAL WORKERS

(Medical, Welfare, Blind and Mental Health) from Area Health Office (Telephone Bletchley 2507).

9. HOME HELP ORGANISER

Area Organiser: Mrs. H.R.L. Sephton (Tel: Bletchley 2507).

10. SCHOOL HEALTH SERVICE

Administered from Area Health Office (Tel: Bletchley 2507). This includes arrangements for examination of pupils in accordance with the Education Act 1944, ascertainment of handicapped pupils and carrying out or arranging treatment. The Child Guidance and Dental Clinics under this service are situated at Whalley Drive, Bletchley.

SECTION C

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA

1. WATER SUPPLY

The town has continued to be served with water by the Bucks. Water Board from the Ash Hill and Foxcote sources.

No restrictions were imposed on the use of the Public Water supply for domestic and trade purposes during the year.

2. SEWERAGE AND SEWAGE DISPOSAL

Planning by the Council to meet the ultimate needs of the town in this connection has resulted in a phased programme of works to be undertaken and commenced in 1967. These include-

Phase I Sewage Works Improvements and Extensions.

Phase II New Pumping Station.

Phase III Wolverton Road / Lakes Lane Sewerage Scheme .

&IV

Flooding and surcharging of sewers which have occurred in the western end of the town will be prevented in the future by this work.

The new Foul Sewer serving Priory Street/Chicheley Street has been completed to provide for future development in this area.

New development in Tickford Street area will be served by a new foul sewer to be laid by the developer which will be phased in with the Council's Sewage Works improvement and extensions.

3. REFUSE COLLECTION AND DISPOSAL

The existing system has continued to operate without difficulty and in order to promote the extension of the paper storage bag method, developers have agreed to this facility being provided.

Transport continues to be provided by one Shelvoke and Drewry Fore and Aft Tipper with back loading attachments for M.1 and Aston Martin Lagonda Ltd. In addition the Karrier side loader refuse collection vehicle has been thoroughly serviced and repainted to provide alternative transport when required.

The tipping area at Willen Road continued to provide sufficient space but with the growth of the town improved tipping arrangements may be called for in the future.

SECTION D

HOUSING ACT

During the year 57 new Council dwellings comprising flats and houses were completed on the Whitethorns Estate.

The removal of the properties 82 - 110 Tickford Street and the erection of 33 Old Peoples Flats with Communal Hall and Wardens Flat proceeded with all footings completed and brickwork started.

Further unfit properties were closed in Priory Street and other properties purchased by the Council with a view to future residential development of this site.

At the end of the year 25 private enterprise houses were being constructed and property owners successfully applied for Standard Grants in respect of 9 dwellings and also 10 Improvement Grant proposals were approved.

SECTION E.

1. HIGHWAY SCAVENGING

The District Highways and part of the Classified Highways continue to be cleaned by the Urban District Council by manual methods, by Street Sweeper and Orderly haid truck. The Council's Highways Committee have considered the use of mechanical sweeping methods and demonstrations using various appliances have been held in the town. The Council, however, have decided to continue with the manual methods although it is aware that the position with regard to the employment of the labour required for this class of work is becoming more difficult to recruit.

2. OFFICES, SHOPS AND RAILWAY PREMISES ACT 1963.

At the end of the year there were 77 premises registered with the Council in respect of the Act and of these 52 had been inspected in a detailed manner.

The analysis of persons employed in these premises were as follows:-

<u>Type of Premises</u>	<u>Number of Premises</u>	<u>Persons Employed</u>
Offices	17	97
Shops	50	198
Warehouses	2	7
Catering Establishments	4	286
Fuel Storage Depots	4	17
	<u>77</u>	<u>605</u>
TOTAL		

Total Males 223 Total Females 382

* Includes Motorway Service Area

During the inspections a total of 58 faults were observed and the owners attention called to these items.

3. FACTORIES ACT 1961

During the year various extensions to existing undertakings have been completed. The Council's concern in these establishments being mainly connected with Sanitary Accommodation there is no special item to report.

4. FOOD HYGIENE ETC.

Generally my department have found the management of catering and food distributive concerns to be very much aware of their responsibilities and they are anxious to co-operate in promoting cleanliness in their establishments.

5. SLAUGHTERHOUSES

There are no slaughterhouses in this district and meat in carcass form is obtained from Bedford, Northampton and Luton.

6. PREVENTION OF DAMAGE BY PESTS.

During the year 1407 inspections of properties in the town were carried out and 97 properties were treated for rat infestation. For the third year in succession the sewers proved to be entirely clear of rat infestation. This work is undertaken by the North Bucks. Area Rodent Committee on behalf of the Council.

7. UN SOUND FOOD

It was necessary to accept the surrender of very little food stuff during the year and that taken comprised of:-

Meat and Meat Products

4 lb.

8. PUBLIC SWIMMING POOL

During the 1966 season two samples of water were taken from your Swimming Pool; and proved to be very satisfactory.

The weather experienced during this season was an improvement on the previous year. Attendance of 18,279 swimmers and 3,280 spectators, a total of 21,559 persons who took advantage of the facility.

No action was taken by the Council in agreeing to the heating and roofing over the Pool.

SECTION F.

1. NOTIFICATIONS:

	<u>1966</u>	<u>1965</u>
Measles	4	57
Food Poisoning (Salmonella)	3	8
Scarletina	6	-
Puerperal Pyrexia	5	-

2. TUBERCULOSIS

There was one case reported from this cause.

P. LAVIS

Medical Officer of Health.

Prescribed Particulars on the Administration
of the Factories Act 1937 - 1959

1 - INSPECTIONS for purposes of provision as to health
(including inspections made by Public Health Inspector)

Premises (1)	Number on Register (2)	Number of		
		Inspect -ions (3)	Written Notices (4)	Occupiers Prosecuted (5)
(i) Factories in which Section 1,2,3,4, & 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities /	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority.	24	30	NIL	NIL
(iii) Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority / (Excluding outworkers' premises)	4	10	NIL	NIL
T O T A L	28	40	NIL	NIL

Particulars	Number of cases in which defects were found.				Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted
	Found	Remedied	Referred to H.M. Inspector	by H.M. Inspector	
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)
Want of Cleanliness (S.1.)	-	-	-	-	-
Overcrowding (S.2.)	-	-	-	-	-
Unreasonable Temperature (S.3)	-	-	-	-	-
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6.)	-	-	-	-	-
Sanitary Cons. (S.7.)					
(a) Insufficient	-	-	-	-	-
(b) Unsuitable or defective	-	-	-	-	-
(c) Not separate for sexes	-	-	-	-	-
Other offences against the Act (Not including Offences relating to outwork)	-	-	-	-	-
T O T A L	-	-	-	-	-